

Message Text

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 9480

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 1641

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: RECOGNITION OF NEW PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT

REF: LISBON 1635

1. IN TELEPHONE CONVERSATION TODAY WITH SECRETARY GENERAL CALVET DE MAGALHAES, I EXPLAINED THAT EMBASSY LOOKED UPON ITS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF FOREIGN MINISTRY'S NOTE OF APRIL 26 AS REPRESENTING NOTHING MORE THAN COMPLIANCE WITH ITS INSTRUCTIONS FROM STATE DEPARTMENT TO MAINTAIN LINES OF COMMUNICATION WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICES. CALVET SAID HE UNDERSTOOD IT IN THIS SENSE ALTHOUGH, SPEAKING AS ONE PROFESSIONAL TO ANOTHER, THERE ARE LEGAL MINDS WHO WOULD INTERPRET THIS AS ACT OF RECOGNITION. IN FACT, HOWEVER, IN REPORTING TO JUNTA ON RESPONSES TO FOREIGN MINISTRY'S NOTE, CALVET HAD NOT MENTIONED EMBASSY'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT WHICH HE HAD NOT AT THAT POINT SEEN, BUT HAD INFORMED JUNTA THAT ACCEPTANCE BY DEPARTMENT OF SIMILAR NOTE DELIVERED APRIL 27 BY THEMIDO COULD BE INTERPRETED AS FAVORABLE US ATTITUDE ON RECOGNITION QUESTION.

2. CALVET ADDED THAT FIRST RESPONSE RECEIVED WAS FROM PAPAL NUNCIO (AS WAS PROPER SINCE HE IS DEAN OF DIPLOMATIC CORPS). NUNCIO'S NOTE WAS VIRTUALLY IDENTICAL WITH US EMBASSY'S. SO WAS BRAZILIAN NOTE, BUT BRAZILIAN EMBASSY OFFICER WHO DELIVERED NOTE PERSONALLY HAD STATED UNDER INSTRUCTIONS THAT PORTUGUESE

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SHOULD INTERPRET NOTE AS REPRESENTING ACT OF RECOGNITION. GERMAN

AMBASSADOR IN PRESENTING SIMILAR NOTE HAD OBSERVED THAT FRG PRACTICE IS TO RECOGNIZE STATES NOT GOVERNMENTS AND THAT THEREFORE GOP SHOULD NOT LOOK UPON NOTE AS ACT OF RECOGNITION SINCE THAT QUESTION DOES NOT ARISE. CALVET COMMENTED THAT WHETHER CONDUCTING BUSINESS IN NORMAL MANNER, SUCH AS EXCHANGE OF NOTES WHERE RECOGNITION IS NEITHER SPECIFICALLY SOUGHT NOR GRANTED, IS CONSIDERED TO CONSTITUTE RECOGNITION DEPENDS IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS ON THE INTENTIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT WHICH ACTS ON THE NOTE EITHER BY ACCEPTING IT OR REPLYING TO IT. I ENDED CONVERSATION BY OBSERVING THAT BOTH DEPARTMENT'S ACCEPTANCE OF NOTE AND EMBASSY'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT SHOULD BE INTERPRETED MERELY AS MAINTENANCE OF LINES OF COMMUNICATION.
POST

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